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Lake County Board Approves Major Transportation Initiatives

LAKE COUNTY, IL – As approved by the County Board this month, the Lake County Division of Transportation will undertake three major initiatives totaling more than \$16.6 million to help ease traffic congestion throughout the county. The three projects incorporate road widening to increase capacity and intersection and traffic signal modernization to improve traffic flow.

Construction projects include work on Rollins Road in unincorporated Lake County north of Third Lake, Washington Street in Grayslake and Washington Street in Gurnee.

Widening Washington Street to five lanes from IL Rte. 83 to U.S. Rte. 45 in Grayslake is scheduled for the 2003 construction season at a projected cost of over \$9 million.

County Board members appropriated \$370,000 of County Bridge Tax funds, \$3 million of Matching Tax funds and \$5.8 million from the Motor Fuel Tax funds to finance the project.

The portion of Washington Street in Gurnee will be widened from two lanes to five lanes from US Rte. 45 to Hunt Club Road. Lake County Division of Transportation officials anticipate work to begin during the 2003 construction season.

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Motor Fuel Tax Funds will pay for \$750,000 of the engineering supervision phase for the project, with Lake County receiving reimbursement from the Federal Government for up to 70% of this phase of the project's final cost.

Also during the 2003 construction season, Lake County Division of Transportation officials plan to undertake a project to add lanes to a portion of Rollins Road from Drury Lane to US Rte. 45 in unincorporated Lake County north of Third Lake. The estimated cost of the improvements is \$4.6 million.

Lake County Board members unanimously passed a resolution appropriating \$370,000 of County Bridge Tax funds, \$2.5 million of Matching Tax funds and \$3.2 million of Motor Fuel Tax funds to finance the project.

“Once completed, these projects will help alleviate several chronically congested areas in the county. Residents of Lake County and the traveling public will benefit from these infrastructure improvements,” Lake County Division of Transportation Director/County Engineer Marty Buehler said regarding the three projects. “These two east-west corridors in the central part of the county are a major source of traffic congestion. We are grateful that we will have marked improvements in the next two years.”

The Lake County Division of Transportation provides safe, efficient and well-maintained county highways and bikeways for the people of Lake County and the traveling public.